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SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" What are the allegations that were reported against the Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies? " 9–30 a.m.

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" One is that he made use of the society's van whenever he visited Tiruchirappalli officially and no amount was paid by him towards hire charges; another is that he scandalized the ex-Service men."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Sir. is it a fact that for the misconduct of this officer, a reward was given to him in the form of promoting him from Deputy Registrar to Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The explanation of the officer was considered satisfactory, Sir."

*Opening of a fire station at Tindivanam.*

* 2163 *Q.*—SRI M. VENUGOPALA GOUNDER : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether any steps have been taken so far to open a fire station at Tindivanam in South Arcot district?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Tindivanam is one of the municipal towns in which it is proposed to open a Fire Station in due course."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" Sir, what would be the length of time meant by the term ' in due course '? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I am unable to predict the probable time, Sir."

*Formation of rural co-operative banks in the State.*

* 2164 *Q.*—SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state how many rural banks are proposed to be started under the aegis of the Government in Malabar district and in which taluks?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" A Rural Co-operative Bank has been organized at Mannur in the Eranad taluk in the Malabar (South) Circle. It has yet to be registered. Proposals for the conversion of 21 Producers-*cum*-Consumers Societies into Rural Co-operative Banks are also being examined by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies."

* 2165 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Madras State Advisory Co-operative Council met on 29th December 1954 and worked out any scheme for the formation of rural co-operative banks; and

(*b*) the number of such banks to be formed in this State?

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (a) Yes, Sir. The Madras State Advisory Co-operative Council approved a scheme drawn up by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies in this regard.

" (b) Twenty-five, Sir."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister why only one rural bank was organized in Mannur, that is in South Malabar, while two rural banks were sanctioned for the whole of Malabar, one for north and the other for south and why the North Malabar Bank was not started? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" There is a proposal to convert the Producers'-*cum*-Consumers' Co-operative Societies into Co-operative Banks; it was found that it would be not possible to organize a separate rural co-operative bank in the North Circle, as it was found difficult to collect the requisite share capital from members."

*Government holiday on 21st January 1955 in the City.*

* 2166 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the reason for declaring a public holiday on 21st January 1955 to the Government offices in the City?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" This has been answered a number of times.

" (2) 21st January 1955 was declared a public holiday in the City of Madras as the lower-paid staff in the City offices would have found it difficult to reach their offices in time on that day, due to the heavy rush of traffic on account of the commencement of the Open Session of the Indian National Congress at Avadi and also due to the dislocation of traffic in the morning of that day on account of the visit of Marshal Tito to the City and his State Drive through the City."

(Sri N. K. Palanisamy stood up in his seat.)

DEPUTY SPEAKER :—" Several times this question has been answered here, Mr. Palanisamy."

(The Member resumed his seat.)

*Local Fund Dispensary at Mannarghat.*

* 2167 *Q.*—SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government received any representation from the public in April 1955 through the Chief Minister when he visited Mannarghat that the Local Fund Dispensary at Mannarghat, Malabar, should be taken over by the Government; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?